

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/075,090

Applicant(s)

DELCOURT ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Thanh-Tam T. Le

2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 1/19/04.
 2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-15.
 3. ☒ The drawings filed on 12 February 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
 4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
 6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____ |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____ | 6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Monte L. Falcoff (Reg. No. 37,617) on 01/19/04.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1, line 7, -- , **the enlarged section of the fastener having at least four substantially flat faces circumferentially located around a longitudinal centerline of the fastener, and the fastener also having another section, of a different shape than the enlarged section, coaxially aligned with the enlarged section.** -- have been inserted after "*the stud*".

Claim 4, line 1, -- **another** -- has been inserted after "*wherein the*"; line 2, "*has at least four substantially flat faces circumferentially located around a longitudinal centerline of the fastener, and the fastener also has a*" has been replaced -- **is** --; and lines 4 and 5, "*section coaxially aligned with the enlarged section*" has been deleted.

Claim 10, line 1, -- **assembly** -- has been replaced "*stud*"; lines 6-8, "*a neck located between the threaded segment and the shoulder, the neck being of a reduced peripheral distance as compared to the threaded segment and the shoulder,*" have been deleted; line 11, "*and*" has been deleted; and line 15, -- ; **and a fastener removably secured to the threaded segment, the fastener having an enlarged section**

operably enclosing at least a portion of the shoulder of the stud, the enlarged section of the fastener having at least four substantially flat faces circumferentially located around a longitudinal centerline of the fastener, and the fastener also having another section, of a different shape than the enlarged section, coaxially aligned with the enlarged section. -- have been inserted after "*electricity*".

Claim 11, line 1, -- **assembly** -- has been replaced "*stud*".

Claim 12, line 1, -- **assembly** -- has been replaced "*stud*".

Claim 13, line 1, -- **assembly** -- has been replaced "*stud*".

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

None of the reference discloses the fastener having an enlarged section operably enclosing a portion of the shoulder of the stud, the enlarged section of the fastener having at least four substantially flat faces and the fastener also having another section of a different shape than the enlarged section, in combination with the other claimed elements of the embodiments recited.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

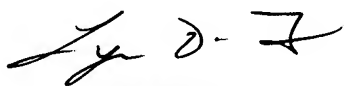
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6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh-Tam T. Le whose telephone number is (703) 306-5711. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00.
 7. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached on (703) 308-2710. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.
 8. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.
 9. Any correspondence to this action may be mailed to:
10. For additional information regarding this new address, which was effective May 1, 2003, see Correspondence with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, 68 Fed. Reg. 14332 (March 25, 2003).
 11. Or faxed to: 703-308-7722 or 308-7724 (informal or draft communications should be clearly labeled "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")
 12. Hand-delivered responses should be brought to:

Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Crystal Plaza 4, Fourth Floor (receptionist)
2201 South Clark Place, Arlington, Virginia

TL.
01/20/04.


LYNN FEILD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER